

Application No.: 09/763,515**Docket No.: 21900-00021-US****REMARKS**

The Office Action and prior art relied upon have been carefully considered.

Claims 1 to 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (USP 4,301,428), and claims 1 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandor et al. (USP 6,127,028). Claims 1 to 7 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph and claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Furthermore, claim 1 stands provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 13 of co-pending Application No. 10/089,849.

In order to overcome the rejections, claims 1 to 9 have been cancelled and replaced with a new set of claims 10 to 27. Each of the independent claims of the new set recites the physical feature of the soft magnetic material which is not disclosed by any of the cited references.

As a result of the amendment the claimed invention substantially differs from the invention claimed in the co-pending application Serial Number 10/089,849.

The wording "soft magnetic fiber" is now changed to "a fiber made of a soft magnetic material", while the wording "in the vicinity of" is now changed to "to be in contact with".

It is believed that the present invention now defined by amended claims is patentably distinguishable over the prior art.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21900-00021-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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